

Greetings:

You are scheduled to have a nuclear medicine treatment of your thyroid on the date/time noted on the front sheet of this letter.

PLEASE READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY. IT CONTAINS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR NUCLEAR MEDICINE SCAN.

If you have received x-ray dye (contrast) in a vein or artery (for a CT scan, angiogram, heart catheterization, or other x-ray study) in the past 6 weeks, please let us know by calling us at (804) 675-5510 at least 1 business day before your appointment.

If you eat health food such as kelp (seaweed), or if you are using iodine medication such as Betadine (to clean wounds), please let us know by calling us at (804) 675-5510 at least 1 business day before your appointment.

If your current medications include thyroid hormone replacement pills (Synthroid or levothyroxine), PTU (propylthiouracil), or methimazole, please let us know by calling us at (804) 675-5510 at least 1 business day before your appointment.

NUCLEAR MEDICINE TREATMENT:

DO NOT EAT or DRINK after 11 PM the night before your appointment.

One of the Nuclear Medicine doctors will discuss the treatment with you, and you will be asked to sign a consent form to show your agreement.

You will then be given 1 or more capsules to swallow. The capsules contain the radioactive iodine. You will be allowed to eat 1 hour after you swallow the capsule(s).

Please remember to attend your follow-up appointments in the Endocrine Clinic.

WAITING TIME

We try and keep on schedule, but sometimes we fall behind (when there are sick patients who need immediate attention, when equipment breaks, when studies take longer than expected). Please be understanding if you have to wait. Even if you arrive early for your appointment, you may have to wait to have your study performed.

FEMALE PATIENTS:

If you are pregnant, if there is any possibility that you are pregnant, or if you are breast-feeding, you must let us know prior to the scan. Please call us at (804) 675-5510 at least 1 business day before your appointment.

TO CANCEL OR RE-SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT

If you need to cancel or re-schedule your appointment, please call us at (804) 675-5510 at least 1 business day before your appointment if possible. If you call to cancel your appointment, we suggest that you let your primary health care provider know that you have canceled your appointment.

INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the nuclear medicine procedure, please call us at (804) 675-5510. We are ready to answer your questions, and to help you in any way we can.

Radiology Service/ H. H. McGuire VA Medical Center (114)
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